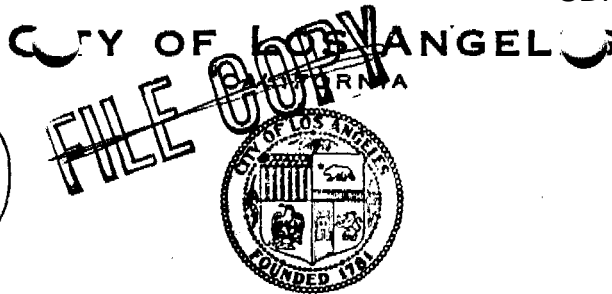


R4P

**BOARD OF  
PUBLIC WORKS**

**COMMISSIONERS**  
**MAUREEN A. KINDEL**  
 PRESIDENT  
**WARREN A. HOLLIER**  
 VICE-PRESIDENT  
**JAMES W. HALL**  
**DAVID LOZANO**  
**MAX W. STRAUSS**

KK



**TOM BRADLEY**  
 MAYOR

**DEPARTMENT OF  
PUBLIC WORKS**

**BUREAU OF SANITATION**

**JACK M. BETZ**  
 DIRECTOR  
**WILLIAM F. GARBER**  
**TADAO ISOMOTO**  
 ASSISTANT DIRECTORS  
 ROOM 1410, CITY HALL EAST  
 200 NORTH MAIN STREET  
 LOS ANGELES, CA 90012  
 485-5746

MAY 8 - 1981

Mr. Jim Piper  
 12366 Cohasset Street  
 North Hollywood, CA 91605

Dear Mr. Piper:

INQUIRY INTO THE CONTENTS OF THE HEWITT PIT SANITARY LANDFILL

Your letter of March 9, 1981 to Councilman Bernardi has been referred to me for reply. Specifically you desired information on the Hewitt Pit Landfill and whether or not it contained toxic waste or radioactive debris.

We reviewed our files concerning this 63 acre landfill site which is located to the south and west of the Briarcliff subdivision. Filling operations were started at this site in the early 1960's and stopped in December, 1975. Approximately 5,000,000 tons of Group 2 and Group 3 materials were placed in the Hewitt Pit. Based on the Waste Discharge Requirements for this site, which were issued by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board Los Angeles Region, the following materials could be disposed of at this site: metals and metal products (except magnesium), copper, cloth, wood, lawn clippings, shrubbery, hide, hair, bones, small dead animals, ashes (from home incinerators), market refuse, garbage, street sweepings, earth, rock, gravel, brick, concrete, asphalt paving, glass, plaster and plaster board, manufactured rubber products, steel mill slag, clay, asbestos fiber and products therefrom.

The following waste could not be disposed of at the Hewitt Pit site: waste containing oils, paints, varnishes, drugs, medicines, chemicals, phenols, or creosote compounds, acids, brines, caustics, organic industrial wastes, waste from privies and chemical toilets, oil well brines, contaminated and/or polluted oil well drilling muds, oil dehydration tank wastes, tank bottoms, acid sludges, and other liquids, solids, substances or other materials which may deleteriously affect the waters of the State. In addition, no materials were to be accepted for disposal at this site which were of a toxic nature, such as insecticides, pesticides, poisons, or radioactive materials.

Since Group 2 wastes include residential refuse, small quantities of materials such as paints, oils and varnishes as well as drugs and medicines, and partially empty insecticide cans unmindfully discarded by residents into their refuse could have ended up at this site. However, based on studies by different regulatory agencies these quantities when compared to the total amount of material placed at the site are insignificant and are not believed to result in a hazardous condition existing at a landfill site. These same types of wastes coming from industry in large bulk amounts could result in a potentially hazardous condition at any landfill site. However, based on our record search, we are not aware of any bulk material of a hazardous or toxic nature being deposited in the Hewitt Pit Sanitary Landfill site.

With regard to a statement in your letter concerning the construction of your subdivision on a portion of the landfill site, I wish to assure you that none of the homes in your subdivision were built on a former portion of the old Hewitt pit site. In the City of Los Angeles, the Department of Building and Safety will not permit homes to be built on a former landfill. However, you are directly adjacent to the landfill site on the south and west sides of the subdivision. The owners of the Hewitt Pit have placed into operation a methane gas control system which is designed to prevent the migration of the potentially hazardous methane gas produced from the decomposition of refuse. This control system has been in operation for several years and has demonstrated control capability which has been verified by regular gas monitoring tests conducted at the site.

I trust that this letter adequately addresses your concerns in this matter.

Very truly yours

Original Signed By  
JACK M. BETZ

JACK M. BETZ  
Director

cc: Councilman Bernardi